

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 01859 121237Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 /085 W
----- 033701

R 121230Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5933

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 1859

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, FT

SUBJECT: OPPOSING DJIBOUTI DELEGATIONS VISIT SANA

1. IN SHORT STOPS IN SANA LAST WEEK ON FIRST OF SEVERAL VISITS TO ARAB COUNTRIES, TWO DELEGATIONS--ONE REPRESENTING THE AFFARS AND ONE THE ISSAS--HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH YARG OFFICIALS RELATIVE TO FUTURE OF DJIBOUTI AS A FRENCH OVERSEAS TERRITORY.

2. AFFAR PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION, WHILE REITERATING WISH TO REMAIN UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION, INDICATED TO FONNCN ASNAG EXPLOME INDEPENDENCE ISSUE OF ARAB LEAGUE, IN CONSORT WITH OTHER INTERESTED POWERS, PREPARED TO GUARANTEE DJIBOUTI'S INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY. DELEGATION BELIEVED UNDER TACIT SPONSORSHIP OF FRENCH EMBASSY.

3. ISSA DELEGATION--COMPOSED OF PROMINENT MEMBERS DJIBOUTI ISSA COMMUNITY AND SPONSORED BY SOMALI EMBASSY--FOLLOWED CLOSELY ON HEELS OF AFFAR COLLEAGUES. DELEGATION WAS LIKEWISE RECEIVED BY
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PAGE 02 SANA 01859 121237Z

FONMIN AND PRESENTED ARGUMENTS FAVORING TERRITORY'S

INDEPENDENCE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE BOTH DELEGATIONS RECEIVED COURTEOUSLY, YARG OFFICIALS WERE CLEARLY MORE SYMPATHETIC TO AFFAR POSITION. YARG HAS STRONG INTEREST IN SUPPORTING MODERATES IN AREA OF SOUTHERN RED SEA/INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL, IN FACE OF WHAT IT SEES AS SPREADING RADICALIZATION PROMOTED BY SOVIET UNION AND LATTER'S FRIENDS. IN DJIBOUTI YARG'S INTERESTS BEST SERVED BY CONTINUATION OF FRENCH PRESENCE. IT APRTICULARLY FEARS SOMALI TAKEOVER WHICH WOULD SPREAD PRO-SOVIET INFLUENCE AND UNDOUBTEDLY FURTHER HARM YEMENI COMMUNITY IN DJIBOUTI ALREADY AFFECTED BY RECENT UNREST.
SCOTES

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